

A veterinary composition comprising a guanidine derivative, *e.g.*, guanabenz or guanabenz acetate is provided which produces a rapid acting and long lasting sedative and analgesic effect in a subject animal that is selectively reversible. The use of guanabenz in the horse provides for a safe, effective, long lasting and rapidly reversible sedative and analgesic which can be used on the standing animal. Methods of use of the compositions of the invention are also provided.